

GROWING STRONG THE FARMERS MARKET IS BACK!

The Bloomington Farmers Market has grown from a handful of vendors selling produce to a cornucopia of locally grown foods, handmade soaps, flowers, crafts, baked goods, artwork and more. This year's market welcomes a certified organic vendor and a wood-fired pizza booth.

The market runs **Saturdays, June 11 through October 15 from 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.**, at Bloomington Civic Plaza, 1800 West Old Shakopee Road. The Farmers Market will not only feature live music from 10 a.m. - 12 p.m., entertainment, and educational activities, but a variety of special events and seminars.

The 4th annual Global Celebration takes place at the market on **Saturday, June 25, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.**, and will feature cultural entertainment, children's activities, food and unique crafts. *See page 2.*

The Bloomington Housing and Redevelopment Authority will host a free seminar on organic lawn care presented by "Organic Bob" Dahm, **Saturday, July 16, 9:30 a.m.**, in the Civic Plaza rehearsal hall.



Visit the City's website, click on *E-Subscribe* and sign up for Farmers Market e-mail updates.

WEBSITE KEYWORDS: FARMERS MARKET.

INSIDE

JUNE 2011

PAGE 2 City news and happenings.

PAGE 3 Parks, recreation and more.

PAGE 4 Summer events calendar.

When you see **WEBSITE KEYWORDS**, go to **www.ci.bloomington.mn.us** for more information.

BOOK'EM

ANNUAL USED BOOK SALE

The Bloomington Crime Prevention Association (BCPA) is collecting books for its 19th annual used book sale. The Book'Em sale takes place **June 4 - 18**, at 9801 Lyndale Avenue. Proceeds go to help fund crime prevention programs, the Bloomington Police Explorers and the Bloomington Police Department. For more information, call 952-220-2537 or visit the BCPA website at www.bcpamn.org.

DISTRICT VACANCY FILLED TIM BUSSE APPOINTED TO SERVE

The City Council appointed Tim Busse to the vacant District III Council seat at its regular meeting on April 18. The vacancy was due to the resignation of Steve Elkins, who was appointed to the Metropolitan Council in March. Busse will fill the remainder of Elkins' term, which ends December 31, 2011.

WEBSITE KEYWORD: DISTRICT III.

COMING SOON 2011 CITY ELECTION ACTIVITIES

The offices of Mayor, Councilmember-at-Large, Councilmember District III and Councilmember District IV will be up for election this year. The winning candidates will fill these positions for new terms of office beginning in 2012. For more information, call 952-563-8729.

WEBSITE KEYWORD: VOTING.

BEYOND THE YELLOW RIBBON KICK-OFF SUPPORT OUR MILITARY FAMILIES

The community is invited to participate in Beyond the Yellow Ribbon, an awareness program aimed at connecting service members and their families to community support, services and resources. The kick-off event will be held **Tuesday, June 14, 6 p.m.**, at Bloomington Civic Plaza, 1800 West Old Shakopee Road.

For more information call Nancy Ludvigsen at 612-839-0440.



QUALITY RECREATION MAJOR PARK IMPROVEMENTS COMING

Bloomington is home to 97 parks, 80 baseball and softball fields, 55 playgrounds, 53 tennis courts, an ice garden, an aquatic center, two first-class golf courses, 19.5 miles of park trails and countless other athletic and recreational facilities. What's more, Bloomington is surrounded by nearly 9,000 acres of parks and open spaces.

To keep Bloomington's parks and recreational facilities beautiful, viable and safe, the City is continually undertaking revitalization projects to replace aging equipment and make improvements to the parks system. This summer and fall the following parks and athletic facilities in Bloomington will be undergoing major changes to ensure they remain safe and enjoyable for many years to come.

Pickleball and tennis courts

Two existing tennis courts at Tarnhill Park, 9650 Little Road, will be reconstructed into one tennis court and one basketball court. The current basketball hoop in the parking lot will be removed.

Pickleball is a sport similar to tennis where players use a hard paddle and smaller court. To accommodate a growing community of players, the tennis courts at Westwood Park, 3490 West 109th Street, will be updated. One court will be converted into three pickleball courts, while the remaining tennis court will be updated to include striping for a pickleball court within the existing tennis court boundaries. The courts' proximity to Westwood Elementary School will make them easily accessible for school groups to use.

Playground equipment

Three popular Bloomington playgrounds will soon have new playground equipment. Cooks Playlot,

8301 13th Avenue South, Logan Playlot, 1900 West 91st Street and Reynolds Park, 7201 West 83rd Street, will be updated this summer.

Bloomington Family Aquatic Center

The Bloomington Family Aquatic Center (BFAC) hosts more than 35,000 individuals and 100 groups per summer season. To ensure the facility is safe and enjoyable for years to come, some major updates will be starting this fall.

The water slides at BFAC are more than 17 years old. In July 2010, safety concerns led to one slide's closure. To continue to provide a safe, attractive play environment for patrons and to remain competitive with other aquatic facilities in the metropolitan area, the City will be replacing both slides with newer, safer models.

The BFAC bathhouse was constructed in 1972. Although remodeling occurred in 2001, the locker rooms and offices have yet to be updated. The proposed changes would update the locker room and offices, and create a central corridor to the pool deck with two family changing rooms.

The water slide replacement and bath house renovation are slated to begin in fall 2011 and will be completed in time for the 2012 swimming season. The aquatic center improvements will create a safer, more family-friendly environment and improve accessibility.

A new turtle-themed tot area with three separate slides were installed and will be operational for the 2011 swimming season. This new tot slide is sure to enhance the pool experience for young swimmers.

For more information, contact Parks and Recreation at 952-563-8877 or e-mail parksrec@ci.bloomington.mn.us.

Presort Std
U.S. Postage
P A I D
Twin Cities, MN
Permit #2293

ECRWSS
POSTAL CUSTOMER

CITY OF BLOOMINGTON
1800 WEST OLD SHAKOPEE ROAD
BLOOMINGTON MN 55431-3027